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TARC NEWSLETTER

TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

JANUARY/FEBRUARY, 1994

OFFICERS

President: Bud Hughes K4CWG 269-0779 Secretary: Bobi Sue Wood KE4BBS 268-8537
VicePresident: Cliff Hoag KC4SYD 267-7030 Treasurer: Clyde Lee K4EOS 267-93

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Bud Hughes K4CWG

Well, here we are beginning a new year. We have circled the sun and are in the infancy stages of a new orbit around that huge life sustaining fire ball in the sky. Now I can start practicing writing the new year 1993.....oops! I mean 1994.

Our club has accomplished many worthwhile tasks during the year just ended and according to everyone in the club that I have talked too, we are headed for another banner year.

For the most part our financial balance sheet has fared well. We are however, in need of funds to finance the ongoing activities of the club, such as the mandatory $200.00 annual filing fee, newsletter expenses (postage, printing cost, etc.). TARC is fortunate in having club members who have made contributions of funds in excess of the $20.00 annual membership fee. These members have requested anonymity, so we will not give names, but to you we are thankful to have you on board.

We are blessed with club members who donate so much of their time to promote the club projects, and to this fine group, hats off and keep on keeping on.

Supporting the club is a team effort and for those who may be in arrears in the submittal of dues, won't you please remit as soon as possible? Remember, your participation is most important, and is the reason for our club's continued growth.

Be sure and remember the club meeting Tuesday, Jan. 25, at 7:00 PM. We have a good program scheduled that I just know you will enjoy. See you there.....and don't forget to bring a friend. Best of 73's.

DO YOU HAVE A FRIEND WHO WANTS TO GET HIS OR HER HAM TICKET? I BET YOU DO. Why not tell them about the upcoming no-code class to be sponsored by TARC. Details are:

1. The eight week course begins Tuesday, 2/1, and will terminate the last week of March..
2. TIME: Each Tuesday, 7:00 to 9:30 PM
3. LOCATION: Jaycee Bldg. on Singleton..
4. TUITION: $25.00 covers textbook,. instructional handouts and the exam fee.

Please get the word out to any who may be interested in enrolling.
FOR Registration contact JOSE, KC4VIO, or BUD, K4CWG.

WE ARE KEEPING AN EAR TO THE GROUND LISTENING FOR THE HOOF BEATS OF OUR NEXT FIELD DAY CHAIRMAN TO COME FORTH AND BE RECOGNIZED.

FCC WARNING TO UNCOORDINATED REPEATER
From Newsline Radio

For well over two years a Los Angeles amateur radio club calling itself the Hispanic Radio Amateur Network has been looking for a set of two meter channels for its wide coverage repeater. The system has been given several test coordinations by the Two Meter Area Spectrum Management Association. In each case someone complained and the test was canceled. So when the club finally found a home on 147.49 Mhz, they thought their long quest was at an end. Enter a group of simplex users 10 Khz away on 147.48. A group calling itself the Valley Simplex Association. The Valley Simplex Association is actually the old Southern California 146.76 simplex group under a new name. Hams that have been involved in FM since the 60's know who the seven sixers are. Its the organization generally credited with bringing FM to the VHF ham and building a political empire in the process. An empire so large that at one time it totally controlled who could even operate FM mode in nine western states. It even enforced those decisions with its own police force known as the seven six secret service - or S.S.S.S.

>In the old days - the 1950's through the early 1970's, the seven sixers would simply have used brute force to remove any unwanted repeater from being their next door neighbor. But its now the 1990's. Times have changed and so have the ways of the seven sixers.

>So it was that members of the Valley Simplex Association who filed complaints about the repeater with the Cerritos FCC office about the interference that they were suffering. Last September 10, the FCC acted on the complaints by sending a written warning to the repeaters owner, Miquel Ramirez, NH2R.

>In a letter only recently made public, Engineer James Zoulek wrote Ramirez that his office was continuing to receive complaints - and we quote - "regarding your non-coordinated operation on several amateur repeater frequencies." The letter went on to say that it has come to Zoulek's attention that the NH2R repeater - and again we quote - "may be operating a non coordinated repeater on 147.49 Mhz." Zoulek said that the operation of a non-coordinated repeater must not cause interference to other radio amateurs as specified under Section 97.205, subpart C of the Amateur Radio service rules. He even went so far as to tell NH2R that failure to adhere to FCC regulations could result in the revocation of his amateur license.

>As far as we know, this is the first time in well over a two decades that the FCC has seen fit to directly intervene in an alleged interference issue between a repeater and a group of simplex operators. It may also be the first time that an allegedly uncoordinated repeater has been told by the FCC that it does not have the same right to exist as do systems that have successfully gone through the voluntary coordination process.

>Right now, things are status quo. The NH2R repeater is still on the 147.49 Mhz frequency. The valley Simplex Association is still operating on 147.48. As we go to air the FCC has not taken any further action in this case. Whether it acts or not, the warning letter to Ramirez may well be precedent that the FCC will follow in other repeater related matters in times to come.

FCC APPROVES VANITY CALL SIGN PLAN
From Newsline Radio

The FCC says that amateurs should be able to choose their own call signs in the not to distant future. This, as soon as a new automated processing system is in place at the Commission's Private Radio Bureau license processing facility in Gettysburg, Pennsylavnia.

>Under the proposed system, hams wishing to apply for an available call sign will be required to file a form and pay an additional fee. Trustees of club and military recreation stations will be eligible for the new program.

>But there is one caveat. Newcomers to the service will not be eligible for vanity call signs until they are ready to upgrade or make some other license change. The FCC says that at the present time call sign selection by first-time licensees is not feasible, but it left the door open for that possibility in the future. In fact, the FCC indicates that the new license processing computer might eventually allow amateurs to check for themselves on the availability of call signs, be used to allow electronic filing of applications and make licenses processing a lot easier for both the applicant and the FCC.

>The text of the Notice of Proposed Rule Making is not yet available but is expected to be shortly. Also acted on by the commission was the cancellation of a rule making procedure adopted last summer establishing a call sign administrator program for amateur club and military stations. This scheme was never implemented due to in-fighting between the ARRL which wanted exclusivity in managing the program and several other entities that saw the chance to gain political or financial advantage by undertaking the task.

QSL ON YOUR WIFE'S BACK
By Bob Nedimyer, W4VQB

We HAMS often criticize the CBers for their funny expressions, but don't realize how odd we sound to the general public. We, like all hobbies, have our own special expressions and abbreviations that are gibberish to the uninitiated. It's strange though, that so many of our strange utterances that originated as the shorthand used to speed up cw contacts have now become the normal lingo of the phone operators.

It seems natural for us to use the cw Q signals for voice communications instead of plain English. We say QSB for fading, QRM for interference and number 73 to convey our best regards. Some operators don't even blush when they talk about the WX or ask "where is your QTH located?" Here are a few more "hamisms" that I came across in an average evening of listening:

QRZed the frequency - often used in place of CQ or is there any one on the frequency who wants to talk to me and ignores the "Q" signal - "Who is calling me?"

CQ 20 meters, CQ 10 meters, etc.....This assumes the other person doesn't know what band you are on, or maybe it means you normally call CQ on one band but listen on another band but now you are only calling CQ 10 and sign with the information that you are listening for any ten meter call!

HI - or Aitch Eye, meaning something is funny but you have forgotten how to laugh.

Over, Over - much more effective than one "Over".

Roger on that...or QSL on that. This replaces the corny 10-4 of CB and means you are a true ham. For instance, if the other ham says everything is ok with him but his wife is having back pains, you respond "QSL on your wife's back." Maybe this is some new magical cure for lower back pain.

Fine business - a pure cw expression as in "FB OM on your rig." Can you imagine using this phrase in a normal conversation with a nonham? Like, "Fine business on your report card son."

I could go on and on but I'll catch you later down the log or a little further down the coax. Be sure to give me a call if you hear me on the coax. Be sure to give me a call if you hear me on the band because I QSL one hundred per cent and I always get a kick out of you calling me Broken Old Bottles. I'm destinated OM but give my best 73's to your ex YL and I hope my QSL card will feel good on her back.....

SAREX TO FLY AGAIN IN JANUARY '94
From Newsline Radio

The first SAREX flight of 1994 is currently slated for liftoff on January 27. Several members of the six man crew are currently studying to take their license examinations.

One of those scheduled to fly is Mission Specialist Sergi Kirkalev. Kirkalev is a veteran of the Russian Mir space station who has swapped his U5MIR call sign for a more traditional call of UZ3AK.

Four schools in the United States and one in Russia have scheduled contacts with the ham radio crew that will be flying STS-60.

BELATED BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO:

KE4AGO Bill Realy WD4DIR John Messina
N4ZNQ Jim Meeks KE4CRG Steve Saunders
KR4GS Tony Lapenta
N4KHU Dave Roberts
KC4UAK Steve Griner
N4AWX Brian Van Alstine
KO4NQ Frenchy Poulin
KD4EYS Charlie Romeo
KD4RVB Jose Ramos Jr.

AND SPECIAL BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

KE4AED Jim Shaver W4AKE Charlie Pugh
KE4BBH Jim Prevatt KE4BBL Cindy Sargenti
WB4CCB Don Joerger K4CWG Bud Hughes
AD4FG Walt Wilson KD4GPF Joe Meyers
KD4JAI Mike Hosmer K4IXU John Pittman
WB4DXD Buck Tomlinson K4SJC Les Griner
WA4HSY C.J.Petrick KD4JAU Mickey Ramos
W4LAC Jason Rudisill KC4VIN Carol Ramos
N4WIN Walt Foster KD4ZXS Walt Pile
KC4WKV Buck Thorne WA4JWU Roger Verble
WB4ZUY Wynn Rostek
KE4BBN George Southwell
KA1BDC Art DeAngelis
KE4GBQ Barbara Depensmith
K1SKQ Francis McDermott
KD4ZAI Walt Hollowell
KD4ZAH Jewel Sanford

FCC PRAISES VEC'S IN VE BUST
from Newsline Radio

The FCC has words of praise for a pair of Volunteer Examination Coordinators who helped to investigate alleged testing irregularities in Los Angeles. As reported last week, the inquiry led to the suspension of the accreditation of a number of Volunteer Examiners and the disqualification of twenty-one applicants for new licenses or upgrades. That investigation is still ongoing, and more VE disqualifications are expected to be announced shortly.

In the meantime, the FCC has taken the time to express its gratitude to the Volunteer Examination Coordinators who made the bust possible. John B. Johnston, W3BE, who is Chief of the FCC's Personal Radio Branch has commended both the ARRL VEC and the W5UI VEC's for their joint cooperation in uncovering the irregularities in the LA testing sessions. He also praised them for their quick action in suspending the VE's believed to be involved. Johnston says that their action will hopefully prevent future occurrences like this, while making certain that amateur licenses are granted only to those who are qualified to hold them.

EDITOR'S DESK
By Clyde Lee K4EOS

To cut postage expense in 1994, we will have the newsletter ready to be picked up at the regular monthly meetings. Be sure to get your copy, as we will assume that everyone who signs in at the meetings has received a copy. Members not attending the meeting will be mailed a newsletter.

If you would like to have extra copies to send to friends, please let us know so that we can print the extra copies.

We will mail a dues renewal reminder to each of you the month before your dues are due. You will only get the one reminder, so please put it in a prominent place so that you will remember to pay your dues. There is a 90 day grace period for paying dues before a member is dropped from the roster. These dropped members are kept in a special database file in the hopes that they will again become active members. The club needs all of you!

If you have any questions about your membership status, please call me at 267-9375.

GROWTH IN HAM RADIO MAY NOT BE AS GREAT AS EXPECTED
From Newsline Radio

Growth in Amateur Radio may not be anyuwhere near as great as the numbers currently show. This is because there have been few names purged from the FCC's database in over a decade, and there is really no way right now to know the total number of hams who are alive and taking an active part in the hobby.

But come January of 1994 some real idea of just how many hams there are will begin to show up. This, as the first of the ten year ham licenses begin to expire and we see just how many renew.

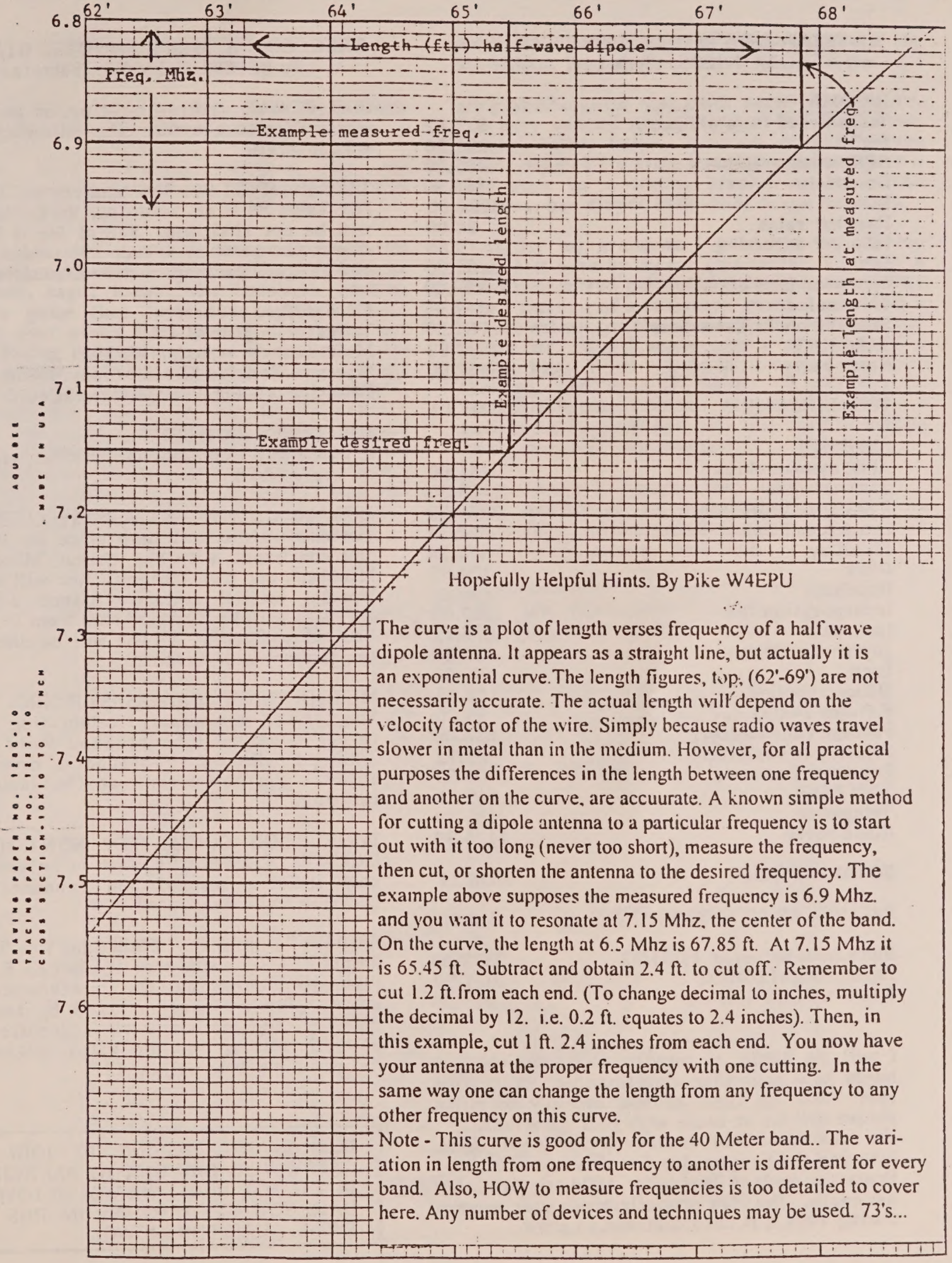
By the way of background, all licenses issued or renewed during the period of January 1984 to December 1988 were ten year term tickets. As a result there were relatively few renewals filed from January 1989 to the end of this year. There were also no renewals made to existing five year licenses after 1989. All licenses issued from January 1984 to December 1988 were simply given a bonus of a five year extension. So, the big question for 1994 is what is the real number of living, licensed and active hams.

Some insight may come from figures compiled by Fred Maia of the W5YI VEC. Fred figures that at least 4,400 renewal applications should arrive at the FCC's Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, post office box in January. Most trend watchers expect the number to be around half of that and believe that a downward trend will continue as the inactive and deceased hams are weeded out of the FCC database.

The Commission says that it is planning to introduce a new and simple mail-back renewal card. In fact the commission had planned to introduce the card in January, but it now does not look like it will be available until later in the year. The theory is that anyone who does not renew using such an easy system is either no longer among the living, or has decided to drop out of ham radio, permanently.

Sometine in March the numbers for January and February should be announced. As soon as they are, we will bring them to you so that we can all know whether the trend is up or down.

THE SMALLEST GOOD DEED IS BETTER THAN THE GRANDEST GOOD INTENTION.



Hopefully Helpful Hints. By Pike W4EPU

The curve is a plot of length verses frequency of a half wave dipole antenna. It appears as a straight line, but actually it is an exponential curve.The length figures, top, (62'-69') are not necessarily accurate. The actual length will depend on the velocity factor of the wire. Simply because radio waves travel slower in metal than in the medium. However, for all practical purposes the differences in the length between one frequency and another on the curve, are accuurate. A known simple method for cutting a dipole antenna to a particular frequency is to start out with it too long (never too short), measure the frequency, then cut, or shorten the antenna to the desired frequency. The example above supposes the measured frequency is 6.9 Mhz. and you want it to resonate at 7.15 Mhz, the center of the band. On the curve, the length at 6.5 Mhz is 67.85 ft. At 7.15 Mhz it is 65.45 ft. Subtract and obtain 2.4 ft. to cut off. Remember to cut 1.2 ft.from each end. (To change decimal to inches, multiply the decimal by 12. i.e. 0.2 ft. equates to 2.4 inches). Then, in this example, cut 1 ft. 2.4 inches from each end. You now have your antenna at the proper frequency with one cutting. In the same way one can change the length from any frequency to any other frequency on this curve.

Note - This curve is good only for the 40 Meter band.. The variation in length from one frequency to another is different for every band. Also, HOW to measure frequencies is too detailed to cover here. Any number of devices and techniques may be used. 73's...

TREASURER'S REPORT- 1993 RECAP
By K4EOS, Clyde Lee

INCOME	
Transferred from old acct.	977.82
50/50	251.50
ARRL memberships	205.00
Donations	868.90
Dues	3536.00
Hamfest sales	88.00
Interest earned	9.85
Loan	65.00
Repeater fund donation	350.00
Shirt sales	112.65
Student books/Exam fees	791.80
TARCFEST	1033.52
Xmas party	927.00
TOTAL INCOME	9217.04
EXPENSES	
ARRL memberships	181.00
Bank charges	23.80
Bud's loan payments	2021.50
Exam fees/Student books	510.24
FieldDay	174.54
Gifts	124.95
Hamfests	100.00
Incorporation fee	200.00
Insurance	676.15
Jaycee donation	352.50
Loan	100.00
Office Supplies	108.25
P.O.Box rental	35.00
Postage (newsletter)	638.00
Printing (newsletter)	45.72
Repeater Expenses	1666.60
TARCFEST	419.31
Telephone	195.19
Xmas party	1125.39
TOTAL EXPENSES	8698.14
BALANCE AS AT 12/31/93	518.90
Bud's loan bal.as at 12/31/92	2333.00
Paidthrough12/31/93	2021.50
BALANCE DUE BUD	311.50

I will be happy to answer any questions you might have regarding club finances. But rather than take up time at the monthly meeting, please call me at home with your questions.
We have paid Bud another $150 on his loan, bringing the balance due Bud down to $161.50.
Projected budget figures for 1994 are tight, but adequate. The club crucially needs your support during 1994 if it is to continue to grow.

EXEC. COMM. MEET. MINUTES 01/10/94
By KE4BBS, Bobbi Sue, Secretary

Cliff, KC4SYD, chaired meeting, as Bud, K4CWG was sick with the flu. The following business was covered:

TARC HAMFEST 94: The hamfest will be held at Fox Lake Park on Saturday, 9/24. Les, K4SJC will be our chairman. Rental fee is $150, and covers the pavilion w/over 100 tables, kitchen, and tailgate parking. Action Committes are:

Kitchen/food -- Sherry
Tailgate -- Jose KC4VIO
Maintenance -- Archie WN3DHI
Flyers -- Renaldo KD4SRN (Tom AD4NA to input)
Publicity -- Bob W4VQB (Jose KC4VIO to input)

MELBOURNE HAMFEST 94:
It was noted the Melboune Hamfest will be held on Sept. 17/18.

BREVARD COUNTY ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION: The celebration will take place on March 12, and consistent with the theme "Mosquitos to Missiles", our own Mosquito Net will conduct a "special events" culture alliance activity on 10/15/40 meters (CW & phone) from 0900 hrs to 1700 hrs. Further details will be discussed at the January club meeting.

MOSQUITO NET ANNIVERSARY PICNIC:
The third anniversary celebration of the mosquito net will be at Sand Point Park on 3/26,and will center around a covered dish buffet. Further details at the January club meeting.

INSTRUCTION COURSE FOR NON-CODE TECH LICENSE: Classes will start in February. $25 cost includes manual and examination fee. Location to be announced.

AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICES: Ralph, KE4AGL noted that the RACES Emergency Plan developed by the north/central/south county planners was rejected by the RACES director, and further work is required. Cliff KC4SYD will sit in for Ralph KE4AGL at a follow-up meeting on Jan. 12.

FOR ANYONE WISHING TO JOIN THE CARAVAN TO DAYTONA TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FOX HUNT, WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOU GET INVOLVED IN THIS FUN EVENT. CALL BUD K4CWG.

ABELL'S ANECDOTES
By Pike Abell W4EPU

Looking back on the holidays, all things considered, we had a great Christmas.

I had some difficulty shopping for my grandchildren this season. My grandson and granddaughter each gave me a list to go by.

On my grandson's list was one or more of the following computer games: Nintendo, super nintendo, saga, basketball, baseball, hockey, golf, a game that tests your eyesight, your agility, your sanity, etc. Just in case I was not up to buying computer games, he really had his heart set on a toy truck that has front wheels that turn, has prominently displayed manifold, radiator, fan, oil filter, air filter, exhaust pipes, and creates a noise not unlike the real thing. If I couldn't find a truck with all of those features he would settle for a bulldozer with a blade that raises and lowers, tracks that roll and leave cleat marks in the dirt, and a wench on the rear. He also had on his list pajamas made in the design of uniforms worn by Superman, Tarzan, Batman, or Ninja Turtle

My granddaughter was much easier to shop for. She only wanted one thing - a doll that cries, laughs, talks, burps, sneezes, coughs, makes faces, wiggles its arms and legs, whines, gets a cold once in a while, breaks out with the measles, has diaper rash, and, of course, wets.

Well, for my grandson I gave him an old toy truck left here by my son (his uncle). I gave it a fresh coat of red paint and it looked almost like new. Instead of a computer game, I gave him a pocket calculator that does square root and the whole bit. Also I made him a cape out of a burlap bag. I cut a hole in it to put his head through, and dyed it black. It did slightly resemble Batman's cape. My granddaughter, I gave her a Raggedy Ann doll that used to belong to my daughter (her mother).

Even though I thought they were pretty nice gifts, neither of my grandchildren seemed to appreciate them. Grandkids just don't understand.....Happy New Year.

Yesteryears
1947 JOE SCHLUMPF GETS A BRIEF GLIMPSE AT THE FUTURE
THAT GAL WITH THE CRYSTAL BALL MUST BE NUTS! SHE SAID THAT SOMEDAY WE'LL BE ABLE TO HANG OUR 2-METER STATION ON OUR BELT AND GO PORTABLE!!
WAR SURPLUS 2 MTR XMTR (522 OR EQUIV)
AC POWER SOURCE
AC POWER SUPPLY
DON'T YOU EVER LONG FOR THE GOOD OL' DAYS?
THESE ARE THE GOOD OL' DAYS!
"ALL-BAND" HF RCVR
2-MTR CONVERTER
BEASLEY
K6BJH

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Total Membership: 249 (includes 48 family members & 10 honorary)

New Members: KE4HDF Angie Trousdale
NOTYET Joan Hatfield

Renewals:
WD4JSX Dan Hatfield
KA4VYH Bill Young
N4DQT Bob Young
KB4CAS Michell Young
KB4CAR Jean Young
N4SCZ Ron Allen
KD4JAM Jack Colsen
KC4SYD Cliff Hoag
AA4HP Hank Phillips
KD4JMX Stephanie Phillips
KA4LTK Lloyd Mullins
KD4UJH George Constandakas

UPCOMING HAMFESTS

2/5-6 Miami	Dade Co.Expo Ctr. Talk-in on 146.925
2/12 Pensacola	Bayfront Municipal Aud. Talk-in 146.760&444.925
2/12 Arcadia	Am.Legion Hall on Hwy.70 Talk-in on 147.075
2/19-20 Orlando	Fairgrounds Talk-in on 146.760
2/26 Stuart	FREE-Langford Park Talk-in on 147-060
2/26 Brooksville	Hernando Co.Fairgrnds Talk-in on 146.715
4/9-10 Gainesville	Alacua Co.Fairgrnds Talk-in on 146.820

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